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Appellate judges question moves to keep Alina Habba in place as top New Jersey prosecutor

By **MIKE CATALINI**

Associated Press

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Federal appeals court judges on Monday questioned the Trump administration's maneuvers to keep the president's former lawyer, Alina Habba, in place as New Jersey's top federal prosecutor. The three-judge panel of the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals sitting in Philadelphia didn't immediately issue a ruling after the arguments, which were attended in person by Habba.

The hearing is the most recent development in President Donald Trump's administration's effort to keep his preferred candidate in the role of U.S. attorney for New Jersey, a powerful post that oversees criminal and civil law enforcement.

The questioning started early, when Judge D. Brooks Smith asked Henry Whitaker, the attorney arguing for the government, what role Habba was filling because she was listed as a "special attorney" as well as acting U.S. attorney.

"Would you concede that the sequence of events here — and for me, they're unusual — would you concede there are serious constitutional implications to your theory here?" Smith asked, adding that the government's theory was a "complete circumvention of the appointments clause." Whitaker defended Attor-



Alina Habba speaks after being sworn in as interim US Attorney General for New Jersey, in the Oval Office of the White House in Washington, on March 28, 2025.

Associated Press

ney General Pam Bondi's appointment of Habba to both positions as within her authority and authorized by law. Asked again later if he could name another similar circumstance with a U.S. attorney, Whitaker said he could not, but added that Habba's appointment was analogous to what the executive branch had done in other cases.

"We colored inside the lines here," Whitaker said. Habba said after the hearing in a statement posted to X that she was fighting on behalf of other candidates to be federal prosecutors who have been denied a chance

for a Senate hearing. "When millions of Americans voted for a change in leadership in November, they voted for a new direction. That choice should not be undermined by political obstruction in Congress or by criminal defendants," she said.

In addition to Smith, who was appointed by Republican President George W. Bush, judges Luis Felipe Restrepo, appointed by Democratic President Barack Obama, and D. Michael Fisher, also appointed by Bush, heard the case.

The hearing comes after a lower court judge said in August her appointment was

done with a "novel series of legal and personnel moves" and that she was not lawfully serving as U.S. attorney for New Jersey.

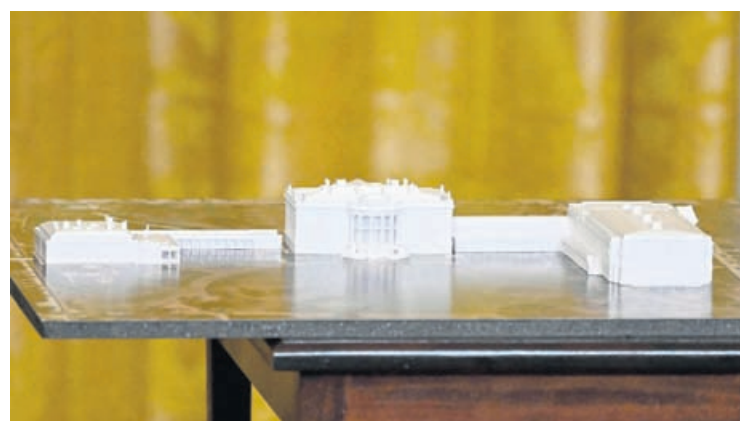
The judge's order said that her actions since July could be declared void but put his order on hold so the U.S. Justice Department could appeal.

Habba is validly serving in the role under a federal statute that permits the first assistant attorney, a post she was appointed to by the Trump administration, the government said in court briefs ahead of Monday's hearing.

A similar dynamic is playing out in Nevada, where

a federal judge disqualified the administration's pick to be U.S. attorney there.

In the Habba case, U.S. District Judge Matthew Brann's decision came after several people charged with federal crimes in New Jersey challenged the legality of Habba's tenure. They sought to block the charges, arguing she didn't have the authority to prosecute their cases after her 120-day term as interim U.S. attorney expired. Abbe Lowell, the attorney arguing for the defendants challenging her appointment, said the government employed a "chimera" of seven different statutes to support her tenure, alluding to the mythical creature made up of various animals. Habba was Trump's attorney in criminal and civil proceedings before he was elected to a second term. She served as a White House adviser briefly before Trump named her as a federal prosecutor in March. Shortly after her appointment, she said in an interview she hoped to help "turn New Jersey red," a rare overt political expression from a prosecutor, and said she planned to investigate the state's Democratic governor and attorney general. She then brought a trespassing charge, eventually dropped, against Newark Mayor Ras Baraka stemming from his visit to a federal immigration detention center. □



A model is seen as President Donald Trump addresses a dinner for donors who have contributed to build the new ballroom at the White House, Wednesday, Oct. 15, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

By **DARLENE SUPERVILLE**

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The White House on Monday started tearing down part of

the East Wing, the traditional base of operations for the first lady, to build President Donald Trump's ballroom. The Washington Post shared

The White House starts demolishing part of the East Wing to build Trump's ballroom

dramatic photos of the demolition work on its website showing a backhoe tearing through the East Wing façade and windows and other building parts in tatters on the ground. Some reporters watched from a park near the Treasury Department, which is next door to the East Wing.

The clearing of trees and other site preparation work started in September.

The White House insists it does not need approval from the National Capital Planning Commission for

the demolition work, only for new construction. The commission is responsible for approving construction work and major renovations to government buildings in the Washington area. Its chairman is Will Scharf, who also is the White House staff secretary and a top aide to Trump.

The commission has not approved the construction and it was unclear whether the White House had submitted the ballroom plans to the agency. The commission's offices are closed

because of the government shutdown.

The Republican president has said he's adding a massive a 90,000-square-foot ballroom because the East Room, which is the largest room in the White House with an approximately 200-person capacity, is too small and he does not like the idea of hosting events in pavilions on the South Lawn.

The ballroom will fit 999 people, Trump said last week. The White House has said it will be completed before his term ends in January 2029. □

U.S. and Australia sign critical-minerals agreement as a way to counter China

By SEUNG MIN KIM and
AAMER MADHANI
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Donald Trump and Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese signed a critical-minerals deal at the White House on Monday as the U.S. eyes the continent's rich rare-earth resources when China is imposing tougher rules on exporting its own critical minerals abroad.

The two leaders described the agreement as an \$8.5 billion deal between the allies. Trump said it had been negotiated over several months. "In about a year from now we'll have so much critical mineral and rare earth that you won't know what to do with them," said Trump, a Republican, boasting about the deal. "They'll be worth \$2."

Albanese added that the agreement takes the U.S.-Australia relationship "to the next level."

Earlier this month, Beijing announced that it will require foreign companies to get approval from the Chinese government to export magnets containing even trace amounts of rare-earth materials that originated from China or were produced with Chinese technology. The Trump administration says this gives China broad power over the global economy by



President Donald Trump, right, shakes the hand of Australian Prime Minister Anthony Albanese during a meeting in the Cabinet Room of the White House, Monday, October 20, 2025, in Washington.

Associated Press

controlling the tech supply chain. "Australia is really, really going to be helpful in the effort to take the global economy and make it less risky, less exposed to the kind of rare earth extortion that we're seeing from the Chinese," Kevin Hassett, the director of the White House's National Economic Council, told reporters Monday morning ahead of Trump's meeting with Albanese.

Hassett noted that Australia has one of the best mining economies in the world, while praising its refiners and its abundance of rare

earth resources. Among the Australian officials accompanying Albanese are ministers overseeing resources and industry and science, and Australia has dozens of critical minerals sought by the U.S. because they are needed in everything from fighter jets and electric vehicles to laptops and phones.

A push for more mines

The agreement could have an immediate impact on rare earth supplies in the United States if American companies can secure some of what Australian mines are already produc-

ing, although it will take years — if not decades — to develop enough of a supply of rare earths outside of China to reduce their dominance.

Pini Althaus, who founded USA Rare Earth back in 2019 and is now working to develop new mines in Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan as CEO of Cove Capital, said it will be crucial that the contracts to buy materials from Australian mines include price floors, similar to what the U.S. government promised MP Materials this summer, to protect against China manipulating prices.

For decades, China has used the tactic of dumping excess critical minerals onto the market to drive prices down to force mining companies in the rest of the world out of business to eliminate any competition. "Taking away that arrow of China's to be able to manipulate pricing is a crucial first step for Australia and the West to be able to develop critical minerals projects to meet our demands," said Althaus, who has spent nearly a quarter-century in the mining business.

The agreement underscores how the U.S. is using its global allies to counter China, especially as it weaponizes its traditional dominance in rare earth materials. Top Trump officials have used the tactics from Beijing as a rallying cry for the U.S. and its allies to work together to try to minimize China's influence.

"China is a command-and-control economy, and we and our allies will neither be commanded nor controlled," Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent said last week. "They are a state economy and we are not going to let a group of bureaucrats in Beijing try to manage the global supply chains."

The level of investment outlined in the agreement shows how serious the two nations are about addressing the problem. □

Vermont state senator who took part in 'deeply disturbing' Young Republicans group chat resigns

By KIMBERLEE KRUESI
Associated Press

A Vermont state senator who took part in a Young Republicans group chat on Telegram in which members made racist comments and joked about rape and gas chambers has resigned.

State Sen. Sam Douglass was revealed last week to have participated in the chat, which was first reported on by Politico. The exchanges on the messaging app spanned more than seven months and involved leaders and lower rank-

ing members of the Young Republican National Federation and some of its affiliates in New York, Kansas, Arizona and Vermont. Douglass was the only elected official involved.

Vermont's top Republican leaders, including Gov. Phil Scott, quickly called for Douglass to resign. A joint statement from the GOP lawmakers described the comments "unacceptable and deeply disturbing."

Douglass, who was in his first year of representing a conservative district near the

Canadian border, said in a statement Friday that he and his wife had received multiple hateful messages and "nasty items" in the mail since news of the group chat broke.

"I know that this decision will upset many, and delight others, but in this political climate I must keep my family safe," Douglass said in explaining his decision to resign. "And if my Governor asks me to do something, I will act, because I believe in what he's trying to do for the state of Vermont." □



The Vermont Statehouse is shown Jan. 2, 2024, in Montpelier, Vt.
Associated Press

Man who sent 'So I raped you' message sentenced to 2 to 4 years for 2013 campus assault

By **MARYCLAIRE DALE**

Associated Press

GETTYSBURG, Pa. (AP) — A man who sent a Facebook message that said, "So I raped you," to a woman he later pleaded guilty to sexually assaulting on a Pennsylvania college campus was sentenced to two to four years in prison on Monday.

The judge took into account Ian Cleary's guilty plea, his remorse and his long history of mental illness in giving a sentence below state guidelines. Cleary, 32, said he sent the messages as part of a 12-step program, in hopes of seeking atonement.

However, victim Shannon Keeler told the court on Monday that the messages only reopened wounds she had long carried over the assault, which went years without being prosecuted. "The system meant to protect me protected you instead," said Keeler, detailing in a powerful 10-minute impact statement the years she spent pursuing charges, which prosecutors are often reluctant to do in campus sexual assault cases.

"This isn't just my story, it's the story of countless women," she said.

Cleary faced a maximum of 10 years in prison for the 2013 attack on Keeler at



Sexual assault suspect Ian Cleary departs from the Adams County Court House in Gettysburg, Pa., May 29, 2025.

Gettysburg College, and the two sides had initially proposed a four- to eight-year sentence.

Andrea Levy, Keeler's lawyer, said the sentence was "less than what we expected and certainly less than he deserves."

Senior Judge Kevin Hess said that anyone with daughters or, like him, granddaughters in college would find the crime "horrifying." Nevertheless, he said, "the defendant has admitted his guilt, he's come forward and even though 10 to 11 alarming

years have passed in the meantime, we wouldn't be here today but for his hope for some kind of forgiveness and contrition."

According to Keeler, Cleary sneaked into her first-year dorm on the eve of winter break, when few people were left on campus, then pushed his way into her room and assaulted her. Cleary left Gettysburg after the attack and ultimately finished college in Silicon Valley, California, where he'd grown up. He then got a master's degree and worked for Tesla before

moving overseas.

Years later, he sent the Facebook message to Keeler, and she renewed her efforts with police and prosecutors to have charges filed. In 2021, she shared her experience in an Associated Press story on the reluctance of prosecutors to pursue campus sex crimes. Cleary was indicted weeks after the AP story was published, and following a three-year search, was extradited from Metz, France, where he had been detained on minor, unrelated charges in April 2024.

Associated Press

Cleary, standing just a few feet away, apologized to Keeler in court on Monday, as well as to his family.

"I'm committed to getting treatment for mental health and stuff like that as I go forward," he said.

Keeler, in interviews with the AP, described her decade-long effort to persuade authorities to pursue charges, starting hours after the assault.

"I had been thinking about this moment for 12 years," Keeler said after seeing Cleary in court in July when he pleaded guilty to second-degree sexual assault. She called it a surreal moment.

Authorities in the U.S. and Europe tried to track Cleary down after the indictment, but seemed unable to follow his trail, online or otherwise, until his arrest in the unrelated case.

In court in July, defense lawyer John Abom said Cleary was homeless at times and unaware of the charges. Adams County District Attorney Brian Sinnett said he had his doubts, but could not prove that Cleary was on the run.

Cleary's family members have declined to comment on the case and did not attend most of his court hearings. His father was present at Monday's sentencing, however. □



Vice President JD Vance watches a demonstration by Marines during activities to mark the upcoming Marine Corps' 250th anniversary on Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton in Camp Pendleton, Calif., Saturday, Oct 18, 2025.

Associated Press

By **AUDREY McAVOY**

Associated Press

Metal shrapnel from an exploding artillery shell fell hit and damaged a California

Highway Patrol vehicle as personnel at a U.S. Marine Corps base fired live rounds over a highway — against the objections of Gov. Gavin

California police say shrapnel hits and damages a patrol vehicle during Marine Corps drills

Newsom — during weekend exercises observed by Vice President JD Vance, state authorities said Sunday. No one was injured.

The incident occurred when ordnance detonated overhead prematurely during Saturday's exercise at Camp Pendleton, the California Highway Patrol said in a news release.

Newsom had strongly objected to the firing of munitions over Interstate 5 for safety reasons. The Democrat closed a 17-mile (27 kilometers) stretch of the road connecting Los Angeles and San Diego during the drills,

which were held to mark the upcoming 250th birthday of the Marine Corps.

The incident occurred in an area where officers had shut down traffic, the highway patrol said.

A Marine Corps spokesperson said the service was aware of "a possible airborne detonation" of a 155 mm artillery round outside the exercise's designated impact area.

"Following established safety protocols, firing was suspended. No injuries occurred and the demonstration concluded as scheduled," Capt. Gregory Dreibelbis of the I

Marine Expeditionary Force said in an emailed statement. An investigation has been initiated, he said.

"We are committed to determining the incident's root cause and applying findings to future missions," Dreibelbis said. The Marine Corps had said there was nothing unsafe about the exercise and that it was unnecessary to disrupt traffic on I-5.

One unoccupied patrol vehicle was hit by shrapnel. Officers found a 2 inch-by-0.5 inch (5 cm-by-1.3 cm) piece of shrapnel on the vehicle. It left a small dent and scratch on the vehicle's hood. □

U.S. envoys arrive in Israel to shore up the Gaza truce after violence flares

By **SAM MEDNICK, SAMY MAGDY and WAFAA SHURAF**

Associated Press

TEL AVIV, Israel (AP) — Two of U.S. President Donald Trump's envoys traveled to Israel Monday to shore up the tenuous ceasefire in Gaza, a day after the fragile deal was tested by a major flareup of violence.

On Sunday, Israel had threatened to halt shipments of humanitarian aid into Gaza, and its forces killed dozens in strikes there after accusing Hamas militants of killing two soldiers. Israel said late in the day it had resumed enforcing the ceasefire.

The delivery of food and other aid into the devastated territory will begin again Monday through multiple crossings after Israeli inspection, in line with the ceasefire agreement, according to an Israeli security official who spoke on condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized to speak to the media. By afternoon, it was not immediately clear if the flow of aid had restarted. Israeli government spokesperson Shosh Bedrosian said that U.S. special envoy Steve Witkoff and the president's son-in-law, Jared Kushner, met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu about developments in the region. U.S. Vice President JD Vance and the second lady, Usha Vance, are scheduled to visit the country Tuesday and meet with Netanyahu,



People gather to welcome freed Israeli hostage, Elkana Bohbot, who was recently released from Hamas captivity in Gaza, as he returns home from the hospital to Mevaseret Zion, Israel, Sunday, Oct. 19, 2025.

the prime minister said in a speech in which he also warned Hamas that any attacks against Israeli forces would be met with "a very heavy price."

A fragile truce More than a week has passed since the start of the U.S.-proposed truce aimed at ending two years of war. Trump told reporters aboard Air Force One on Sunday that Hamas has been "quite rambunctious" and "they've been doing some shooting." He also suggested that the violence might be the fault of "rebels" within the organization rather than its leadership.

Since the ceasefire started, Hamas security forces have returned to the streets in Gaza, clashing with armed groups and killing alleged gangsters in what the militant group says is an attempt to restore law and order in areas where Israeli troops have withdrawn.

On Sunday, Israel's military said militants had fired at troops in areas of Rafah city that are Israeli-controlled according to agreed-upon ceasefire lines. Retaliatory strikes by Israel killed 45 people in Gaza, according to the Health Ministry, which says a total of 80 people have been killed

since the ceasefire took effect on Oct. 11.

Hamas, which continued to accuse Israel of multiple ceasefire violations, said communication with its remaining units in Rafah had been cut off for months and "we are not responsible for any incidents occurring in those areas."

Under the terms of the ceasefire, Israel is still waiting for Hamas to turn over the bodies of 16 remaining hostages. Twelve bodies have already been returned to Israel, and Hamas said it planned to return one more late Monday.

The next stage of ceasefire

The next stage is expected to focus on disarming Hamas, Israeli withdrawal from additional areas it controls in Gaza, and future governance of the devastated territory. The U.S. plan proposes the establishment of an internationally backed authority. In an interview with CBS' "60 Minutes" news program on the weekend, Kushner said the success or failure of the deal would depend on whether Israel and the international mechanism could create a viable alternative to Hamas.

"If they are successful, Hamas will fail, and Gaza will not be a threat to Israel in the future," he said.

A Hamas delegation led by chief negotiator Khalil al-Hayya was in Cairo to follow up on the implementation of the ceasefire deal with mediators and other Palestinian groups. Fears ceasefire may not hold up Palestinians in Gaza are wary that the deal may fall apart after Sunday's flare-up.

Funeral services were held Monday for some of the dozens of people killed earlier by Israeli strikes across the strip. Associated Press footage showed mourners lining up for funeral prayers behind bodies draped in white sheets.

"There should be concerns as long as the matters have yet to be settled," said Hossam Ahmed, a displaced person from the southern Gaza city of Khan Younis. □

Cambodia opens a new \$2 billion airport to serve Phnom Penh

By **SOPHENG CHEANG**

Associated Press

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia (AP) — Cambodia's Prime Minister Hun Manet on Monday inaugurated a major new airport to serve the capital Phnom Penh and boost tourism and foreign investment.

Techo International Airport is a three-runway facility that replaces the nearly 70-year-old Phnom Penh International Airport, which had only one runway.

The new \$2 billion airport, in

Kandal province about 30 kilometers (19 miles) south of Phnom Penh, began operating in September. It is a joint venture between the Cambodian government and the Overseas Cambodian Investment Corp.

Hun Manet said he hoped the new airport will be a driving forces in attracting more tourists and investors to Cambodia, "more than before the arrival of COVID-19." The new airport is initially expected to be able to accommodate 13 million pas-

sengers, but its capacity will increase to 30 million after 2030, and up to 50 million by 2050.

The immediate prospects for a rise in foreign tourists have been overshadowed by the highly publicized death of a young South Korean man who reportedly was tricked into working in one of Cambodia's online scam centers. Many of the workers there are kept as virtual slaves to conduct online fraud in what is a multi-billion dollar organized crime activity. The ille-



Cambodian Prime Minister Hun Manet, second from right, presides over together with his wife Pich Chanmony during an inauguration of Techo International Airport in Kandal province, Cambodia, Monday, Oct. 20, 2025.

Associated Press

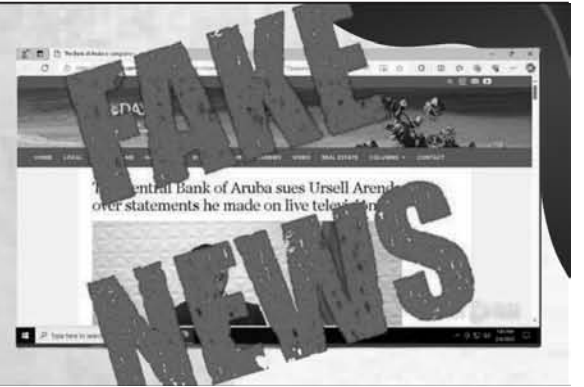
gal industry was highlighted last week when the United States and Britain enacted sanctions against organiz-

ers of a major Cambodian gang, and its alleged ring-leader was indicted by a federal court in New York. □

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Houthis release 5 Yemeni U.N. staffers in Sanaa after weekend detention at offices



Houthi supporters carry the coffin of Maj. Gen. Muhammad Abdul Karim al-Ghamari, who died of wounds he suffered after an Israeli attack, during his funeral at the people's mosque in Sanaa, Yemen, Monday, Oct. 20, 2025.

Associated Press

By **AHMED AL-HAJ and FAT-MA KHALED**

Associated Press

ADEN, Yemen (AP) —

Houthi rebels released five Yemeni United Nations staff members, and allowed 15 international ones to move freely within the U.N. compound, after detaining them there in Sanaa over the weekend, a U.N. spokesperson said Monday.

Stéphane Dujarric also said Houthi security forces had left the compound after the latest of such raids on international organizations. The Houthis have a long-running crackdown against the U.N. and others working in Yemen's rebel-held areas including Sanaa, the coastal city of Hodeida and the stronghold in Sadaa province in the north.

The rebels have repeatedly claimed, without evidence, that the detained U.N. staff and employees of other organizations and embassies were spies, allegations the U.N. has denied.

Dozens of people have been detained. A World Food Program worker died in detention earlier this year in Sadaa.

Funeral for military chief Earlier Monday, the Iran-backed rebels held a funeral for their military chief of staff who was killed in a recent Israeli strike, with more than 1,000 people gathered in Sanaa.

The Houthis acknowledged last week that Maj. Gen. Muhammad Abdul Karim al-Ghamari was killed in an Israeli airstrike along with other rebel leaders. The Houthis did not say when the strike took place. The death further escalated tensions between the rebels and Israel.

Nearly two months ago, Israeli airstrikes killed senior Houthi government officials in Sanaa, including their prime minister, Ahmed al-Rahawi.

The Houthis said al-Ghamari was killed along with his 13-year-old son, Hussain, and "several of his companions," according to the rebel-controlled SABA news agency, which didn't provide further details.

Many in the funeral crowd on Monday vented their anger at Israel.

One mourner, Ayham Hassan, said "Israel is the biggest enemy for Arabs and

Muslims." He spoke to The Associated Press by phone from Sanaa.

The U.N. sanctioned al-Ghamari for his "leading role in orchestrating the Houthis' military efforts that are directly threatening the peace, security and stability of Yemen, as well as cross-border attacks against Saudi Arabia."

The U.S. Treasury sanctioned him in 2021 for his responsibility in "orchestrating attacks by Houthi forces impacting Yemeni civilians" and said he had been trained by Lebanon's militant Hezbollah group and Iran's paramilitary Revolutionary Guard.

The U.S. and Israel had launched an air and naval campaign against the Houthis in response to the rebels' missile and drone attacks on Israel and on ships in the Red Sea. The Houthis have said they are acting in solidarity with the Palestinians over the war in Gaza.

Their attacks over the past two years have upended shipping in the Red Sea, through which about \$1 trillion of goods pass each year. □

Iraq says some U.S. military advisers will stay due to IS threat in Syria



Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani speaks at his political block campaign rally before the parliamentary elections in Mosul, Iraq, Saturday, Oct. 18, 2025.

Associated Press

By **QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA**

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's prime minister said Monday that a small contingent of U.S. military advisers will remain in the country for now to coordinate with U.S. forces in neighboring Syria combating the Islamic State group.

Washington and Baghdad agreed last year to wind down a U.S.-led coalition fighting IS in Iraq by this September, with U.S. forces departing some bases where they have been stationed.

Iraqi Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani told journalists in Baghdad that U.S. military advisers and support personnel are now stationed at the Ain al-Asad air base in western Iraq, a base adjacent to the Baghdad airport, and the al-Harir air base in northern Iraq.

Al-Sudani noted that the agreement originally stipulated a full pullout of U.S. forces from Ain al-Asad by September, but that "developments in Syria" since then required maintaining a "small unit" of between 250 and 350 advisers and

security personnel at the base.

He said they would work to support counter-IS surveillance and coordination with the al-Tanf base in Syria. He added that other U.S. sites are witnessing "gradual reductions" in personnel and operations. After the fall of former Syrian President Bashar Assad in a rebel offensive in December, fears arose in Iraq of an IS resurgence taking advantage of the ensuing security vacuum and weapons abandoned by the former Syrian army.

Al-Sudani maintained that the extremist group, which seized wide swathes of territory in Iraq and Syria a decade ago, "no longer poses a significant threat inside Iraq."

Iraq has sought to balance its relations with the United States and neighboring Iran and to avoid being pulled into regional conflicts, a policy that the prime minister said he will continue.

"We put Iraq first, and we do not wish to act as a proxy for anyone," he said. "Iraq will not be a battlefield for conflicts." □

Aruba's Bocas: home to the rarest fossil reefs on the planet!

(Oranjestad)—If you've been to the northern coast of Aruba already, you've probably noticed how the ground differs entirely from the sandy beaches on the southern part of the island. These hard surfaces, with sharp bumps and holes are actually fossilized coral reefs, of which its growth and changes can be traced back to the last glacial period.

On May 30 2023, geoscientists, Dr. Patrick Boyden from the Marum research faculty at the University of Bremen, Prof. dr. Alessio Rovere from the Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Prof. dr. Gianfranco Scicchitano, from the University

of Bari Aldo Moro, presented their research on these fossilized coral reefs at the University of Aruba. Their focus for their research included studying the health and formation patterns of these coral reefs, and to investigate how these reefs have responded and can respond to fluctuating sea levels or extreme weather, like hurricanes and tsunamis.

Through underwater and land surveillance, and 3D models of the reefs, they were able to narrow down when these formations started to take place. They were also able to track the fluctuation of sea levels during the past hundred or

even thousands of years, and the effects that this fluctuation has had on the coral reefs of the windward side of Aruba.

These findings can certainly put things into perspective. The ground on which we have walked many times on the northern part of the island hold such rich history, history that dates back to a time that most of us cannot even imagine. As the scientists themselves have pointed out, these fossilized reefs on the windward side are truly an incredible and rare remnant of geological history, as they provide a clear view of how these reefs have formed.



This research is also important for the future of coral reefs on the island. By studying rising sea levels and climate impact on these coral reefs, we are able to take concrete action in protecting and preserve our coral

reefs. So, if you are ever visiting one of the bocas or driving along the northern part of the island, please be conscious to help protect our natural historical remnant. Oh, and wear (coral-friendly) sunscreen! ☐

Aruban snacks and where to find them

ORANJESTAD — Want to taste something different for a change? How about some Aruban snacks that you can find all around the island? Hop in your car, and go to these locations to find some of the most popular and tasty snacks that are beloved by our locals.

One of the staples of Aruban cuisine and snacks is the Pastechi. Pastechi is a Caribbean fried pastry that is filled with cheese, meat, chicken, veggies and sometimes even fish! Or perhaps you might want to try a croquette, locally called a "kroket," which is a crusty fried snack with typically a meat and dough mix filling. The Aruban kroket is based on its Dutch counterpart, the "bitterbal".

These two snacks are typically found in all local snack trucks, which can be found all over the

island, including on the side of the main road that stretches from San Nicolas to the Hotel Area. You can also find pastechis and kroketts at local bakeries and snack shops, like Bright Bakery in Piedra Plat, Huchada in Santa Cruz or Pastechi House in the city center. These places may also sell other snacks and sandwiches too, perfect for on-the-road lunch break.

While you're at it, why not accompany your snack with a refreshing "batido"? Batidos are fruit shakes, typically made with added milk for some creaminess. However, you can also ask to hold the milk. Batidos are commonly found in snack shops too. You may find some batido shops next the flea markets downtown, or if you're on your way to San Nicolas, at Mauchi Smoothies and Juice Bar in Savaneta (located at the side of the main road).



If you are looking for something a bit more fresh and healthy, why not try some coconuts, or shaved ice from local vendors? These vendors carry their little shop at the back of their truck, so they are ever-moving around the island. However, there are a few spots where you can almost always find a coconut/shaved ice vendor:

- Right next to the Red Anchor in San Nicolas, on the way to Baby Beach.
- Along the main road next to the airport field.
- At the California Light House.
- At the Alto Vista Chapel.

These vendors may also sell other delights, like the beloved coconut-based dessert "cocada" or peanuts. All in all, in Aruba, you can always find some place to take a break and have a bite of something local, you maybe just might have to look for them! ☐

Photo credit: wheninaruba.com



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Profits



We use advanced analytics to optimize pricing and maximize your earnings.

Casago Aruba: Redefining Island Stays with Full-Service Property Management



Casago Aruba was born from a shared passion for elevating the island's tourism experience. Built on a strong foundation of service, hospitality, and a keen eye for quality, the Casago team—backed by over 16 years of experience in the vacation rental and hospitality industry—is on a mission to redefine what luxury and convenience look like for travelers visiting Aruba.

But Casago is more than just a vacation rental platform. It is a **full-service property management company**, offering seamless experiences

for both guests and homeowners alike. While travelers benefit from handpicked accommodations and personalized service, homeowners gain a reliable partner dedicated to the care and performance of their property.

A Stay Tailored to You

Casago Aruba offers more than just stylish villas. Their curated portfolio includes a **wide variety of condos, homes, and villas** in different sizes to suit all types of travelers—from solo adventurers and couples to large families and groups. Every stay is backed by local expertise, with concierge support, 24/7 guest assistance, and an attention to detail that consistently exceeds expectations.

Whether you're here to relax on world-famous beaches, explore Aruba's cultural gems, or discover hidden corners of the island, Casago Aruba ensures your getaway is as smooth as it is memorable.

A Partner for Homeowners

Behind the scenes, Casago offers a robust suite of property management services designed to help homeowners



maximize rental income while minimizing stress. Services include:

- **Promotion** through Casago's professional booking platform and expert local marketing strategies
- **Complete management** of check-ins, guest communication, cleanings, landscaping, pool maintenance, and repairs
- **Transparent maintenance** reporting, real-time reservation tracking, and on-site security monitoring
- **Full handling** of tax filings for both local and state re-

quirements

- **Monthly property inspections** and full utility bill management
- **Strategic planning** to help homeowners increase profitability and keep their properties in top condition

This full-service model ensures that every home is maintained to the highest standard while giving property owners full peace of mind.

Rooted in Community and Sustainability

What truly sets Casago Aruba apart is their commitment to the local community and to sustainable practices. The team works closely with local businesses and artisans, promotes eco-conscious travel, and supports initiatives that contribute positively to the island's environment and economy.

As one of the fastest-growing vacation rental and property management companies on the island, Casago Aruba continues to expand its footprint—welcoming more travelers, partnering with more homeowners, and raising the standard of hospitality in Aruba. □



Aruba to me: Steven and Angela Fulco

ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory. Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Steven and Angela Fulco.

They wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is the culture of kindness, this is our 55th time to this magical island. The Aruban people are filled with love and kindness, we've made so many new Aruban family members over the years, like Steve, in the picture with us, who makes sure our arrivals and departures are seamless. Aruba the island of kindness."

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! □



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Po-Ké Ono Brings Bold Asian Fusion to Aruba's Dining Scene

Innovative eatery blends island culture with modern Asian cuisine



In a culinary landscape known for its diversity and creativity, Po-Ké Ono stands out as a vibrant and contemporary addition to Aruba's restaurant scene. With locations at Azure in Palm Beach and the Renaissance Marketplace in Oranjestad, the concept introduces a refreshing take on Asian fusion dining—casual in style, yet refined in execution.

Established in 2020, Po-Ké Ono was envisioned as a space where flavor, culture, and creativity intersect. The menu features an array of signature dishes including poke bowls, steamed bao, and sushi, crafted with precision and a focus on freshness. Drawing on Asian influences, the restaurant delivers bold flavors in an approachable format, appealing to a broad audience of locals and visitors alike.

The ambiance is designed to be welcoming and relaxed, with a philosophy centered

around accessibility and enjoyment. Whether dining indoors or grabbing a quick bowl on the go, guests can expect a consistently high standard in both service and cuisine. With extensive menu options, including selections for vegan diners, Po-Ké Ono caters to a wide range of tastes and dietary preferences.

While the concept leans into fast-casual dining, the quality of ingredients and thoughtful



preparation reflect fine-dining roots. Many of the restaurant's core ingredients are sourced locally, emphasizing sustainability and support for Aruba's agricultural community. The result is a dining experience that honors both the island's spirit and the culinary traditions it draws inspiration from.

Open daily from 11:00 AM to 10:00 PM, Po-Ké Ono continues to gain recognition as one of the island's premier destinations for sushi, poke, and

bao. Its growing popularity is a testament to Aruba's evolving food culture—one that embraces global influence while staying rooted in community and craft.

For those seeking a modern taste of Asia in the heart of the Caribbean, Po-Ké Ono offers a flavorful and memorable experience worth exploring. □



Adriaan Laclé: One of Aruba's richest men in the twentieth century

(Oranjestad)—The name Adriaan Laclé may ring a bell to locals as one of the bigger roads on the island, but about a century ago, Adriaan Laclé was a rich businessman, well-known for his generosity, wealth, and taste.

Adriaan was born in 1866 and was the eldest of six children. Not much is known about his childhood upbringing or any of his earlier business ordeals, but during his hay day he often helped people get loans, was a well-established trader, and owned several plots of land. In fact, he commissioned the construction of the famous La Quinta Car-

men manor—now a restaurant. Though he himself never lived in the beautiful manor, his own house also reflected his success and good taste. Today his house still stands in good condition and can be found in the back streets of main street Oranjestad.

Regarding his personal life, it has been said that he was married twice during his lifetime. He had his first daughter during his first marriage but lost his wife soon after her birth. During his second marriage, he fathered 16 children. However, it has been said that only 11 of those 17 made it past 18 years of age. Perhaps two

of his most well-known daughters are Maria Monica Laclé and Maria Veneranda Laclé, who went on to marry successful brothers Eloy Arends and Maximilian Arends, respectively. Their houses are still standing; Eloy and Maria Monica's mansion functions as a townhall, used to host civil marriages, while Maximilian and Maria Veneranda's house stands on the opposite side of the road to them—though currently under renovation after years left in ruin. □

Source: De Kolibrie op de Rots (en meer over de geschiedenis van Aruba) by Evert Bongers.

Birds of Aruba



ORANJESTAD — On May 11th, 2010, the Aruba Birdlife Conservation was founded with the aim of protecting the biodiversity in general and birds in and around Aruba in particular.

Among other things, the foundation will focus on increasing the survival chances of species of wild birds by promoting their preservation and conservation. The foundation publishes the most beautiful pictures of local birds on their social media that show us the beauty of Aruba's birds and nature in general. Aruba Today gives you a little peek with the following pictures and descriptions from the foundations Facebook



page.

The Great Egret

Serenity in Aruba's National Park, a Great Egret flying in peace. When it is peaceful and quite, beautiful things start happening in nature.

Canadian in the house

The breeding season is over and it's getting pretty cold in North America. Shore birds have started moving southwards as early as July. This wetland beauty wants to keep its toes warm.



Our Canadian friends know exactly where they can do so best. A Greater Yellowlegs rediscovering Aruba's Bubali Wetlands.

Cabochon

In its living form of so much more value than any gemstone. Aruba's smallest and most master of flight. A top pollinator. A hovering Blenchi inspecting the human who just entered his territory.

English: Blue-tailed Emerald (male) Dutch: Blauwstaartsmaragdkolibrie (mannetje).

Aruba's to enjoy. Aruba's to protect. □

Exploring the Mainstreet of San Nicolas

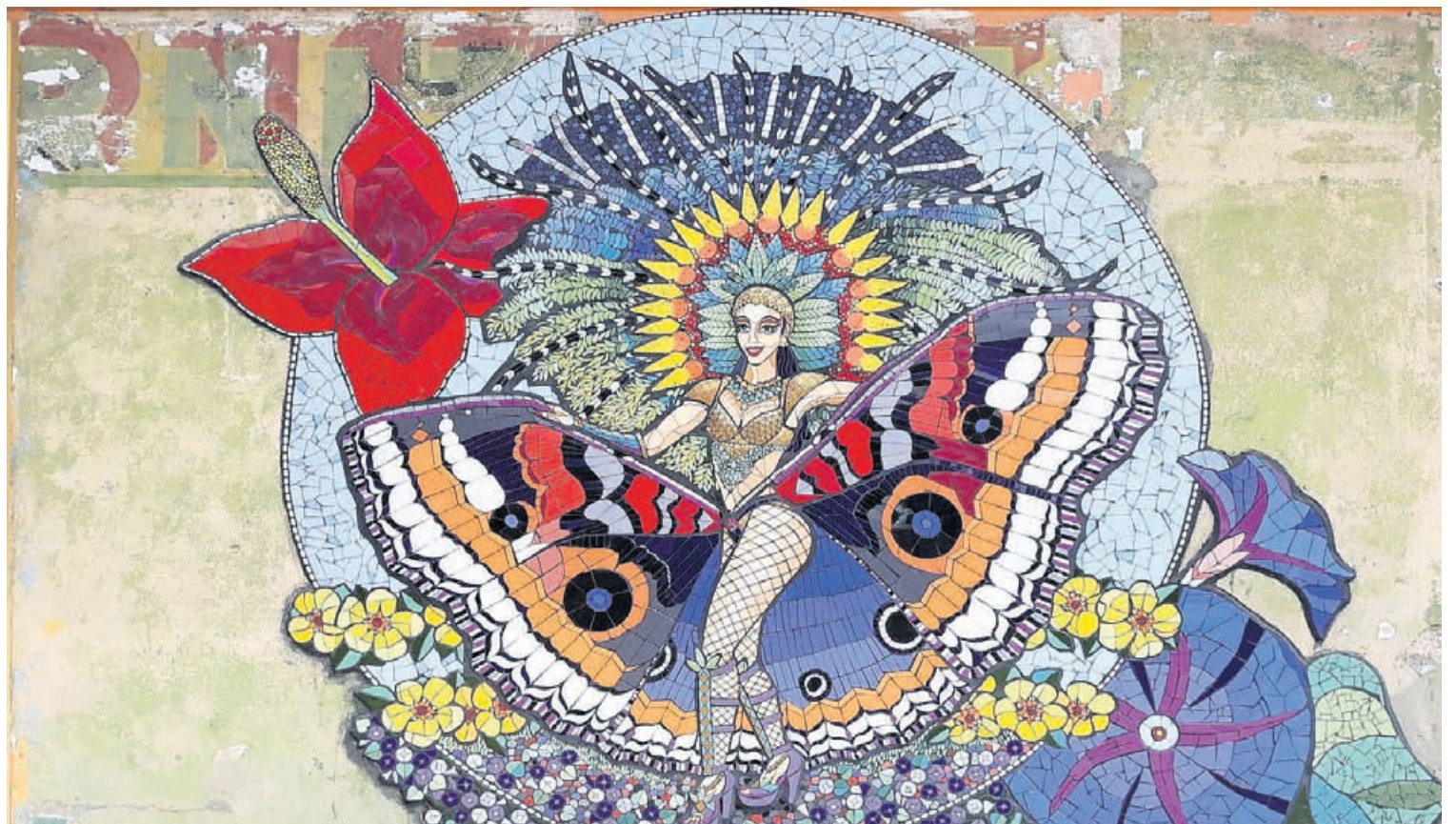
SAN NICOLAS— At Just 11 miles southeast from Oranjestad you will enter the city San Nicolas, also known as Sunrise City or Chocolate City. A city that is rich in authentic culture and island charm. San Nicolas is Aruba's second largest city and was once a bustling company town dominated by the oil industry since the early 1930's.

Over the course of four decades, its demographics had changed immensely due to a stream of Afro-Caribbean and South American workers who came to fill the jobs in the oil refinery between the 1920's until the 1960's. To this day traces of the multicultural influences in culinary offerings and customs, housing and population are clearly visible in San Nicolas – more than anywhere else on the island.

Flow of history

If you are looking for history San Nicolas has it.

The Museum of Industry is situated in the Water Tower in San Nicolas and narrates Aruba's industrial history



which began in the 19th century. Here you will learn about gold, aloe, phosphate, oil and the tourism industries which made San Nicolas once a bustling business center. Experience the touching stories of those who were part of this history.

Nicolaas Store built in 1940 and renovated in 2014 is the home of the Communi-

ty Museum. The collection is remarkable and spans millennia. Ancient fossils stand next to tableaus of an authentically recreated colonial kitchen and bedroom and 19th-century barber-shop, just to name a few of the items of old-time Aruba that has been preserved. A collection of artifacts and other objects of artistic, cultural, historical, or scientific

importance can be found here for the purpose of education or enjoyment.

The new San Nicolas

In the shadow of the refinery, an art capital is quietly beginning to grow. This is the new San Nicolas, a place that is starting to become a magnet for all that is young, cool and hip in Aruba. Indeed, San Nicolas

has all of the ingredients of an emerging cultural hub — varied history, interesting architecture, and, perhaps most importantly, an urban layout that makes it walkable. As you walk around, the streets are silent but the walls are loud, filled with bright, colorful murals painted by a collection of artists from around the world. □

Aruba: the legend behind its name



(Oranjestad)—Most folkloric tales and legends in Aruba revolve around our indigenous ancestors, who came from mainland Venezuela, and discovered the island and made it into their new home. This particular legend tells the story of the birth of the Aruba name.

The legend follows the life of Arua, an indigenous Cacique originally from Aroa in the Falcon state in Venezuela in the year 50 AD. Arua had a son around the year 70 AD with his wife Shira, who they named Corobori. When Corobori was old enough, he joined his father on the usual boat trip to the islands of Curacao and Bonaire to gather salt.

On their way back to Mainland Venezuela, they were caught up in a heavy rain storm—a side effect from a passing, but far away, hurricane. Of course, because of the lack of motors and sail, their boat was left in the mercy of the heavy winds. After a while, the storm started to pass, and the clouds began to clear up. Finally able to see around them, the Cacique spotted land approximately an hour away. So, they started to row in that direction until they reached the coast.

Once they arrived on what they thought was Venezuela, they decided to stay the night and fix their kayak. The next morning, the Cacique ordered his son and a few warriors to go find any sign of popula-

tion in the area: “Corobori,” Arua said. “Don’t come back without news. It’s in your hands how long we stay here till we find our family. So, if you need to take a week to gather information, we will wait for you.”

“Don’t worry,” Corobori replied. “As soon as we have any information, we will let you know.” Armed with arrows and spears, backpacks filled with food and water containers, they set off. They climbed several small hills, but no sign of a village. They crossed different dry riverbeds, but no sign of anything. When the sun finally descended, they found themselves near a fairly tall hill and decided to climb it for a better view of a village. This hill was called Pan Dushi or Orcuyo, which today we call Hooiberg.

The next morning, they could clearly see that they have landed on an island, but an unfamiliar one at that. When Corobori went back to where his father was waiting, he told him the news: “Father Arua, you have just discovered an island, but it is not Curacao or Bonaire. Far in the south, we saw the big mountains of our homeland Venezuela, which we could have never seen on the other island. This leads us to believe we are on a new island. But that’s not all. When the sun came up, we saw in the distance a glowing plain, which we think may be salt.”

The Cacique was pleased to hear of his son’s findings. He decided to stay a couple days on the newly-discovered island in search for salt. The next morning they ascended Hooiberg again and stayed to see if they could find nearby smoke, indicating an inhabitant village. But they found nothing. So they went back to their initial arrival settlement, now known as Santo Largo in Savaneta. The next morning they hiked along the Spaans Lagoen near the Mangel Halto Beach and reached the area of Bushiri. There, they boarded their kayaks and heading to what we know now as Malmok, where they found rocks of salt. After a couple days of exploring the island and gathering some salt rocks, they left for Venezuela, where they were reunited with their families.

Throughout the year, they travelled back and forth to Aruba, collecting salt. After a while they settled on the island, generations of families living along the coast. Corobori was the first indigenous inhabitant in our history to explore the entirety of the island.

Arua, after decades as the leader of his tribe, spent his last days on the island. Having reached 80 years old, he called for his family on his death bed. In his hammock, he said: “My children, many years have passed, and I’ve asked my warrior to bring me back to the island so I can laid to rest. The God

of living has given me the gift of life to see my son, grandchildren and great grandchildren. But now he is calling me home. Corobori, my torch is now passed to you. Guide our people, and be the leader you were always meant to become. If one day you leave my island, do not forget that it is also yours. This is my last wish: When I die, bury me in our maize plantation.”

And so when the Cacique passed away, his wishes were granted and he was laid to rest in the area we now know as the Paradera Cemetery. Where he used to live, they built the Paradera Church.

And that is the tale of what inspired the Aruba name. In the generations that lived or travelled back and forth to the island, there were many familiar names*, like Guadiri-ki, a warrior who was there when the island got discovered and his son, whom he called Huliba; Corobori and his children, Corodori, Camacuri and Turibana, Masiduri; and Malmok, the 13-year-old boy who alerted the Cacique when the Caribbes attacked.

Familiar names: all these names are familiar to Arubans, as these are the names of places and plants on the island. □

**Source: Un storia di e Indjan Arua
(A story of the Indian Arua) by Adolf
(Dufi) Kock**

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 43 Frontiers-

1 Surrender man

5 Recipe Crockett

instruction 44 Casual

9 Flatten tops

10 Sharpens

12 Even a **DOWN**

little 1 Et —

13 Muscat 2 Steered

native clear of

14 It's earlier 3 Shoulder

on school muscle,

nights for short

16 Way off 4 Oval's

17 Magnetite, 5 Loafers,

e.g. e.g.

18 Hobby 6 Male cat

20 Salad bar 7 Facing

item trouble

22 Cart 8 Update,

pullers in a way

23 Critter 9 Toil

25 Skilled away

28 Writer broadly

Hardy

32 4:00, 26 Smiled

perhaps address

34 Museum ending

focus

35 Emeril

catchword

36 Joplin field

38 Baja

buddy

40 Belly

button

type

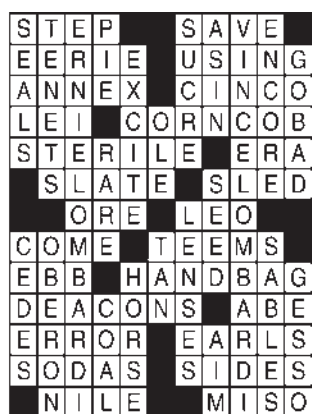
41 Mortise's

mate

42 Spot

seller,

for short



11 Ambu- 27 Thin layer

lance 29 Title for un

sound professeur

15 Title for 30 Warring

Mohandas groups

19 Visitor 31 Exorbitant

to Oz 33 Bitter

21 "Yeah, humor

right!" 37 Brash-

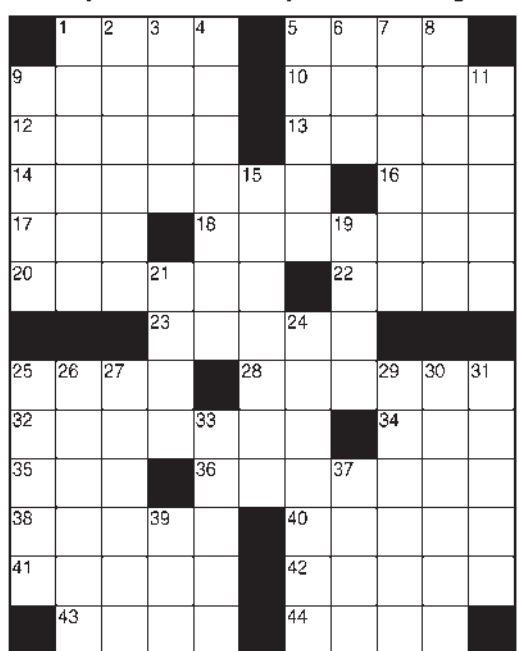
24 Nanny ness,

25 Ready informally

to hit 39 Web

26 Smiled address

broadly ending



10-28

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

10-28 **CRYPTOQUOTE**

U'VV QLPZ KGTSUMR IVTHA

KYGM LYGF CTAG T BTSAGS

HPVPS. — KGBMGQBTF TBBTCQ.

"LYG TBBTCQ XTCUVF"

Cryptoquote: IF YOU HAVEN'T GOT ANYTHING NICE TO SAY ABOUT ANYBODY, COME SIT NEXT TO ME. — ALICE ROOSEVELT LONGWORTH

Cruise ship Schedule: Oct. 14 - 26 2025

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	CALLS
TUE	14	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	23.00	C	1
WED	15	SERENADE OF THE SEAS FREEWINDS	08.00 06.00	23.00 ****	C E	1 1
FRI	17	CELEBRITY SILHOUETTE	07.00	17.00	C	1
SUN	19	NORWEGIAN ESCAPE CARIBBEAN PRINCESS FREEWINDS - Dept.	07.00 09.00 ****	17.00 22.00 22.30	B C E	1 1 -
TUE	21	SERENADE OF THE SEAS	08.00	23.00	C	1
WED	22	RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS OASIS OF THE SEAS FREEWINDS	08.00 07.00 06.00	23.00 16.00 ****	C I E	1 1 1
THU	23	EURODAM	08.00	17.00	C	1
SUN	26	FREEWINDS - Dept.	****	22.30	E	-

SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

King Classic Sudoku

			8				1	
		7	4	1	9		2	
	1	9	2		5	3		8
1	4		7			2		5
	6		3	4				
				5	1	4		3
3				8				4
7				6	4		3	
	9	6		2		8		7

Difficulty: ★★

10/21

Answer to previous puzzle

1	3	9	5	8	4	6	2	7
8	2	4	3	6	7	5	1	9
7	6	5	2	9	1	3	4	8
6	7	3	4	1	9	8	5	2
4	5	1	7	2	8	9	3	6
2	9	8	6	5	3	1	7	4
9	4	7	8	3	5	2	6	1
3	1	6	9	4	2	7	8	5
5	8	2	1	7	6	4	9	3

Difficulty: ★

10/20

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Drinking water

The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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24/7

Advice to feed babies peanuts early and often helped thousands of kids avoid allergies



An arrangement of peanuts is seen Feb. 20, 2015, in New York. Associated Press

By JONEL ALECCIA
AP Health Writer

A decade after a landmark study proved that feeding peanut products to young babies could prevent development of life-threatening allergies, new research finds the change has made a big difference in the real world. Peanut allergies began to decline in the U.S. after guidance first issued in 2015 upended medical practice by recommending introducing the allergen to infants starting as early as 4 months. The rate of peanut allergies in children ages 0 to 3 fell by more than 27% after guidance for high-risk kids was first issued in 2015, and by more than 40% after the recommendations were expanded in 2017.

"That's a remarkable thing, right?" said Dr. David Hill, an allergist and researcher at Children's Hospital of Philadelphia, and author of a study published Monday in the medical journal Pediatrics. Hill and colleagues analyzed electronic health records from dozens of pediatric practices to track diagnoses of food allergies in young children before, during and after the guidelines were issued.

"I can actually come to you today and say there are less kids with food allergy today than there would have been if we hadn't implemented this public health effort," he added.

About 60,000 children have avoided food allergies since 2015, including 40,000 children who otherwise would have developed peanut allergies. Still, about 8% of children are affected by

food allergies, including more than 2% with a peanut allergy.

Peanut allergy is caused when the body's immune system mistakenly identifies proteins in peanuts as harmful and releases chemicals that trigger allergic symptoms, including hives, respiratory symptoms and, sometimes, life-threatening anaphylaxis. For decades, doctors had recommended delaying feeding children peanuts and other foods likely to trigger allergies until age 3. But in 2015, Gideon Lack at King's College London, published the groundbreaking Learning Early About Peanut Allergy, or LEAP, trial.

Lack and colleagues showed that introducing peanut products in infancy reduced the future risk of developing food allergies by more than 80%. Later analysis showed that the protection persisted in about 70% of kids into ado-

lescence.

The study immediately sparked new guidelines urging early introduction of peanuts — but putting them into practice has been slow. Only about 29% of pediatricians and 65% of allergists reported following the expanded guidance issued in 2017, surveys found.

Confusion and uncertainty about the best way to introduce peanuts early in life led to the lag, according to a commentary that accompanied the study. Early on, medical experts and parents alike questioned whether the practice could be adopted outside of tightly controlled clinical settings.

The data for the analysis came from a subset of participating practice sites and may not represent the entire U.S. pediatric population, noted the commentary, led by Dr. Ruchi Gupta, a child allergy expert at Northwestern University.

However, the new research offers "promising evidence that early allergen introduction is not only being adopted but may be making a measurable impact," the authors concluded.

Advocates for the 33 million people in the U.S. with food allergies welcomed signs that early introduction of peanut products is catching on.

"This research reinforces what we already know and underscores a meaningful

opportunity to reduce the incidence and prevalence of peanut allergy nationwide," said Sung Pobleto, chief executive of the nonprofit group Food Allergy Research & Education, or FARE.

The new study emphasizes the current guidance, updated in 2021, which calls for introducing peanuts and other major food allergens between four and six months, without prior screening or testing, Hill said. Parents should consult their pediatricians about any questions.

"It doesn't have to be a lot of the food, but little tastes of peanut butter, milk-based yogurt, soy-based yogurts and tree butters," he said. "These are really good ways to allow the immune system exposure to these allergenic foods in a safe way."

Tiffany Leon, 36, a Maryland registered dietician and director at FARE, introduced peanuts and other allergens early to her own sons, James, 4, and Cameron, 2. □



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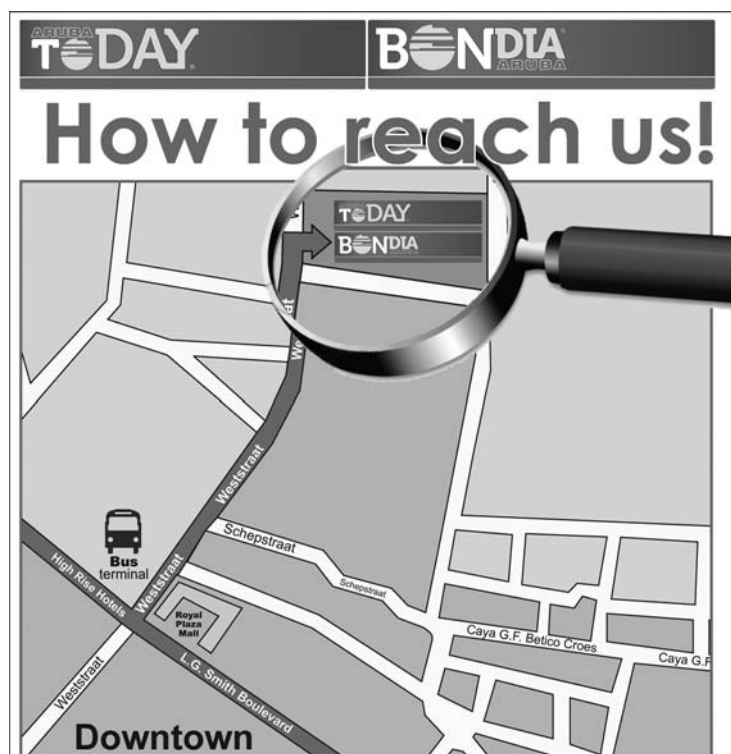
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Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
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Red Cross	582 2219

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American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

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ARUBA TODAY NEWS

To hit back at the United States in their trade war, China borrows from the U.S. playbook

By DIDI TANG

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — China likes to condemn the United States for extending its arm too far outside of its borders to make demands on non-American companies. But when it sought to hit back at the U.S. interests this month, Beijing did exactly the same. In expanding export rules on rare earths, Beijing for the first time announced it will require foreign firms to obtain approval from the Chinese government to export magnets containing even tiny amounts of China-originated rare earth materials or produced with Chinese technology.

That means a South Korean smartphone maker must ask for Beijing's permission to sell the devices to Australia if the phones contain China-originated rare earth materials, said Jamieson Greer, the U.S. trade representative. "This rule gives China control over basically the entire global economy in the technology supply chain," he said.

For anyone familiar with U.S. trade practice, China is simply borrowing a decades-long U.S. policy: the foreign direct product rule. It extends the reach of U.S. law to foreign-made products, and it has been used regularly to restrict China's access to cer-



U.S. President Donald Trump, left, meets with Chinese President Xi Jinping during a meeting on the sidelines of the G-20 summit in Osaka, Japan, June 29, 2019.

tain U.S. technologies made outside of the United States, even when they are in the hands of foreign companies. It is the latest example of Beijing turning to U.S. precedents for tools it needs to stare down Washington in what appears to be an extended trade war between the world's two largest economies.

"China is learning from the best," said Neil Thomas, a fellow on Chinese politics at Asia Society Policy Institute's Center for China Analysis.

"Beijing is copying Washington's playbook because it saw firsthand how effectively U.S. export controls could constrain its own economic development and political choices." He added: "Game recognizes game."

The idea goes back to at least 2018

It was in 2018, when President Donald Trump launched a trade war with China, that Beijing felt the urgency to adopt a set of laws and policies that it could read-

ily deploy when new trade conflicts arise. And it looked to Washington for ideas.

Its Unreliable Entity List, established in 2020 by the Chinese Ministry of Commerce, resembles the U.S. Commerce Department's "entity list" that restricts certain foreign companies from doing businesses with the U.S.

In 2021, Beijing adopted the anti-foreign sanction law, allowing agencies such as the Chinese Foreign Ministry to deny visas and freeze the assets of unwelcome individu-

als and businesses — similar to what the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Department of Treasury can do. Calling it a toolkit against foreign sanctions, intervention and long-arm jurisdiction, the state-run news agency China News in a 2021 news report cited an ancient Chinese teaching, saying Beijing would be "hitting back with the enemy's methods." The law "has combed through relevant foreign legislation and taken into consideration the international law and the basic principles of international relations," said the Chinese scholar Li Qingming as quoted in the news report. He also said it could deter the other side from escalating.

Other formal measures Beijing has adopted in the past several years include expanded export controls and foreign investment review tools.

Jeremy Daum, a senior research scholar in law and senior fellow at Yale Law School's Paul Tsai China Center, said Beijing often draws from foreign models in developing its laws in non-trade, non foreign-related areas. As China seeks capabilities to retaliate in kind in trade and sanctions, the tools are often "very parallel" to those of the U.S., he said. □

Kering sells beauty division to L'Oreal and says the companies will collaborate on wellness products



U.S. President Donald Trump, left, meets with Chinese President Xi Jinping during a meeting on the sidelines of the G-20 summit in Osaka, Japan, June 29, 2019.

Associated Press

By DIDI TANG

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — China likes to condemn the United

States for extending its arm too far outside of its borders to make demands on non-American companies. But when it sought to hit back at the U.S. interests this month, Beijing did exactly the same. In expanding export rules on rare earths, Beijing for the first time announced it will require foreign firms to obtain approval from the Chinese government to export magnets containing even tiny amounts of China-originated rare earth materials or produced with Chinese technology.

That means a South Korean smartphone maker must ask for Beijing's permission to sell the devices to Australia if the

phones contain China-originated rare earth materials, said Jamieson Greer, the U.S. trade representative. "This rule gives China control over basically the entire global economy in the technology supply chain," he said.

For anyone familiar with U.S. trade practice, China is simply borrowing a decades-long U.S. policy: the foreign direct product rule. It extends the reach of U.S. law to foreign-made products, and it has been used regularly to restrict China's access to certain U.S. technologies made outside of the United States, even when they are in the hands of foreign companies.

It is the latest example of Beijing turning to U.S. precedents for tools it needs to stare down Washington in what appears to be an extended trade war between the world's two largest economies.

"China is learning from the best," said Neil Thomas, a fellow on Chinese politics at Asia Society Policy Institute's Center for China Analysis. "Beijing is copying Washington's playbook because it saw firsthand how effectively U.S. export controls could constrain its own economic development and political choices." He added: "Game recognizes game." □

Broncos' comeback vs Giants was historic but flawed in a way that concerns Sean Payton

By **ARNIE STAPLETON**
AP Pro Football Writer

DENVER (AP) — If Sunday night felt like a party to the Denver Broncos, on Monday they dealt with the hang-over of their 33-32 win over the New York Giants that featured one of the most improbable comebacks in NFL history.

"We gave up five or six third-and-10 or fourth-and-long conversions," coach Sean Payton said as he prepared for what was sure to be a fire-and-brimstone speech to his players during their day-after film review. "Offensively, we really didn't amount to anything until we got into the end of the game, fourth quarter. Mental errors, mistakes, snaps, wrong reads, you name it."

And yet, somehow the Broncos overcame a 26-8 deficit Sunday with less than six minutes remaining to extend their wild winning streak to four games.

Teams that trailed by at least 18 points in the final six minutes of the fourth quarter have won two of 3,679 NFL games since the 1970 AFL-NFL merger.

The only other time it happened was on Oct. 10, 2003, when Peyton Manning led the Indianapolis Colts back from a 35-14 deficit to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers on the road with three touch-



Denver Broncos kicker Wil Lutz (3) celebrates after kicking the game winning field goal during the second half of an NFL football game against the New York Giants in Denver, Sunday, Oct. 19, 2025. Associated Press

downs in the final 3:37 of regulation to force overtime, then won it on a short Mike Vanderjagt field goal 38-35. Manning was on hand to witness the Broncos' historic comeback — along with other members of Denver's Super Bowl 50-winning team — for the halftime posthumous induction of former wide receiver Demaryius Thomas into the team's Ring of Fame.

Thomas' pillar at the Broncos' Ring of Fame plaza outside Empower Field was placed next to Manning's as was his

name on the fifth-level facade of the stadium, something Manning said "means a lot" to him.

"We were close and he was so close to my family, as well. It means a great deal." Most assuredly, so did witnessing the historic comeback that left the Broncos (5-2) all alone atop the AFC West for the first time since Week 4 of the 2016 season. What's working

Denver's fourth-quarter offense. The Broncos have outscored their opponents 61-13 in the final quarter dur-

ing their four-game winning streak, shutting out the Bengals, Eagles and Jets before outscoring the Giants 30-13 with the second-most prolific quarter in league history, behind only Detroit's 34-point quarter in a 37-27 win over Chicago on Sept. 30, 2007.

What needs help

Denver's dawdling offense through three quarters. In their last three games and excluding an end-of-half possession, the Broncos' drives prior to the fourth quarter look like this: 17 punts, two field goals, one

touchdown, a fumble, a safety and a turnover on downs after stalling at the opponent's 1-yard line.

Stock up

QB Bo Nix has three fourth-quarter comebacks this season. With two TD keepers and TD throws to Troy Franklin and R.J. Harvey, Nix became the first quarterback in NFL history with multiple rushing and passing touchdowns in a fourth quarter. He also extended his streak of games with at least one touchdown throw to 15. Only Lamar Jackson (28) and Patrick Mahomes (17) have longer active streaks. Nix's six fourth-quarter comebacks since the start of his rookie season last year are tied for the NFL lead with Tampa Bay's Baker Mayfield.

Stock down

Denver's defense, which has been stellar all season, had a major hiccup Sunday. They stumbled on a half-dozen third- or fourth-and-long situations:

—3rd-and-11 at Denver 13: Jaxon Dart 13-yard touchdown pass to Cam Skattebo. —3rd-and-10 at New York 2: Defensive pass interference on Ja'Quan McMillian —3rd-and-12 at New York 38: Dart 13-yard pass to Wan'Dale Robinson plus face mask by cornerback Riley Moss for another 15 yards. □

Former NFL player Doug Martin died after struggling with officers while being detained, police say

OAKLAND, Calif. (AP) — Former All-Pro NFL running back Doug Martin died after a struggle with police officers who were taking him into custody while they were investigating a break-in at a home in Oakland, police said Monday.

Martin, best known for his stellar career with the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, became unresponsive after being arrested early Saturday, according to a statement released by the Oakland Police Department. He was transported by paramedics to a hospital where he died, police said.

He was 36. A cause of death has not been released. An autopsy will be conducted, the Alameda County Coroner's Office said.

Police said in a statement that Martin was involved in a break-in and that a "brief struggle" happened as police were attempting to detain him. The department did not release any other details. Martin, originally from Oakland, lived in Stockton, where he played high school football. His family issued a statement over the weekend asking for privacy as they grieve. Police and Oakland's mayor

said they had reached out to the family.

"We mourn the loss of Doug Martin, an Oaklander who had a distinguished NFL career and tragically passed away Saturday morning. Our condolences are with his family and loved ones," Mayor Barbara Lee said Monday in a statement. His death is being investigated by police, the city police commission, the community police review agency and the county district attorney's office. Martin was the 31st overall pick in the first round of the 2012 NFL draft after a standout career at Boise



Tampa Bay Buccaneers running back Doug Martin (22) during the second half of an NFL football game against the New York Jets Sunday, Nov. 12, 2017, in Tampa, Fla. Associated Press

State. He rushed for 1,454 yards and 11 touchdowns as a rookie and was selected to the Pro Bowl. □

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Champion Thunder enter the season looking to end the NBA's run of parity

By **TIM REYNOLDS**
AP Basketball Writer

The defending NBA champions aren't thinking of themselves in that way.

The 80th season of the NBA starts Tuesday night in Oklahoma City, where the Thunder — the "defending" champion, even though they don't seem to like the term — will get their rings and enjoy one final moment of celebrating last season's seven-game triumph over the Indiana Pacers in the NBA Finals.

"Everybody is saying 'defending,'" guard Jalen Williams said, "but we're trying to be on the offensive as well."

Translation: One title isn't enough for the Thunder. They want more.

They are fully aware that this is the NBA's parity era — seven different franchises have won titles in the last seven years, a run unprecedented in league history. Commissioner Adam Silver has seen nine different franchises win in his 12 seasons leading the NBA; his predecessor, David Stern, saw eight different franchises win in his 30-year run as commissioner. The Thunder would like to be the ones to put at least a temporary halt to parity, and with basically everyone back from a 68-win team that won the crown last season, it's easy to see why BetMGM Sportsbook lists the Thunder as favorites to win the 2026 title.

"It's what you strive for," said Thunder guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander, coming off a year in which he was the scoring champion,



Oklahoma City Thunder guard Shai Gilgeous-Alexander reacts after a teammate scored during the first half of a preseason NBA basketball game against the Charlotte Hornets, Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025, in Oklahoma City.

an NBA champion, the MVP and the NBA Finals MVP. "We've all achieved something that we've dreamed about since we were kids. We've had plenty of time to relish and think about it and have fun, and I guess you can kind of say just soak in it. I know I have."

"But ... it would suck to lose the NBA championship in 2026. So that's the new focus. That's the new goal." It won't be easy, of course. The Western Conference is positively loaded.

Houston added Kevin Durant to a 52-win team. Victor Wembanyama is healthy again in San Antonio. Golden State still has Stephen Curry. The Los Angeles Lakers have Luka Dončić and (soon, they hope) LeBron James. Nikola

Jokić remains unstoppable in Denver. Anthony Edwards hasn't even reached his prime yet in Minnesota. The Los Angeles Clippers have the most experienced roster in the league. Dallas has the No. 1 pick in Cooper Flagg and tons of talent around him.

Those eight teams — among others — all have legitimate hopes. Consider this: Assuming the Thunder make the playoffs, at least one of those eight teams won't even make Round 1 of the postseason.

"I think the Western Conference is the best conference I've ever seen. This is my 29th year in the NBA," said Tim Connelly, Minnesota's president of basketball operations. "I've never seen such

a talent-rich conference. ... We're not going to duck anybody. We can't wait to see where we stand up in this kind of historically stacked Western Conference."

The Eastern Conference has a slew of intrigue.

Defending East champion Indiana lost Tyrese Haliburton to a torn Achilles tendon in Game 7 of the finals and knows he won't play this season, then lost Myles Turner in free agency to Milwaukee. Boston — the big preseason favorite to win last season's title after being champions in 2024 — is waiting to see if, or when, Jayson Tatum's torn Achilles tendon will allow him to return. Philadelphia had a wasted season last year because of injuries and now gets another chance at

seeing if Joel Embiid, Tyrese Maxey and Paul George can make a run. Cleveland and New York are established and expected to be near or at the top, with upstarts like Orlando, Detroit and Atlanta poised to give themselves contending opportunities as well.

"I think the team that wins the East will feel like they can win it, just like the team that wins in the West," Milwaukee coach Doc Rivers said. "Last year I made the case that I thought the East was every bit as good as the West at the top. Now two teams have taken a hit. That may have changed."

The Thunder are trying not to change.

They are no longer chasing. They are the ones being chased. That, Thunder coach Mark Daigneault hopes, is the only real difference between this season and last. This season will bring unplanned challenges, he said, and how the Thunder react in those moments may wind up telling the tale of this season.

"It's pretty unpredictable as to where that will go," Daigneault said. "What is predictable is the solution to it and the things that we'll rely on. We've always relied on being very present. We've always relied on stacking the days. We've always relied on continuous improvement and an emphasis on the things that kind of transcend circumstances. And that's really where our focus has been, and is, and will continue to be." □

Associated Press